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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE).

NOTIFICATIONS

New Delhi, the 27th October, 1947

No. 75.I/47-A.—The Indian Legislative Rules in force immediately before the establishment of the Dominion of India as modified and adapted by the President of the Constituent Assembly of India in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (8) of section 38 of the Government of India Act, 1935 for the purposes of the said Assembly when discharging the functions of the Dominion Legislature under the said Act, are hereby published for general information:—

1. Short title.—These rules may be called ‘the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Rules.’

2. Definitions.—In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—
“the Act” means the Government of India Act, 1935 as in force for the time being;

“Assembly” means the Constituent Assembly of India when discharging the functions of the Dominion Legislature under the Act;

“Finance Minister” includes any Minister or any member of the Assembly appointed by the Governor-General to perform the functions assigned to the Finance Minister under these rules;

“Gazette” means the Gazette of India;

“member” means a member of the Assembly;

“Minister” means a member of the Council of Ministers, and includes any member to whom such Minister may delegate any function assigned to him under these rules;

“President” means the President of the Constituent Assembly of India;

“standing order” means a standing order of the Assembly;

“Secretary” means the Secretary to the Assembly and includes any person for the time being performing the duties of the Secretary.

Words and expressions used in the Act and also in these rules shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings assigned to them in the Act.

2A. Speaker.—(1) The Assembly may elect a member of the Assembly to be Speaker thereof and, so often as the office of Speaker becomes vacant, the Assembly may elect another member to be Speaker.

(2) A member holding office as Speaker of the Assembly shall vacate his office if he ceases to be a member of the Assembly, may at any time resign his office by writing under his hand addressed to the President, and may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Assembly passed by a majority of all the then members of the Assembly; but no resolution for the purpose of this sub-rule shall be moved unless at least fourteen days' notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution.

(3) If the President is a Minister for the Dominion or if the office of the President is vacant, the Speaker shall preside over the Assembly and may exercise all the powers of the President under these rules:

Provided that nothing in this sub-rule shall preclude the President from presiding over the Assembly until the first election of the Speaker.

2B. Election of Speaker by the Assembly.—(1) The election of a Speaker shall be held on such date as the President may fix and the Secretary shall send to every member notice of this date.

(2) At any time before noon on the day preceding the date so fixed, any member may nominate another member for election by delivering to the Secretary a nomination paper signed by himself as proposer and by a third member as seconder and stating—

(a) the name of the member nominated, and

(b) that the proposer has ascertained that such member is willing to serve as Speaker, if elected.

(3) On the date of election the person presiding shall read out to the Assembly the names of the members who have been duly nominated together with those of their proposers and seconders, and, if only one member has been so nominated, shall declare that member to be elected. If more than one member has been so nominated, the Assembly shall proceed to elect a Speaker by ballot.

(4) For the purposes of sub-rule (3) a member shall not be deemed to have been duly nominated or be entitled to vote if he and his proposer and seconder have not, before the reading out of the names by the presiding member, made the declaration referred to in rule 2C.

(5) Where more than two candidates have been nominated and at the first ballot no candidate obtains more votes than the aggregate votes obtained by the other candidates, the candidate who has obtained the smallest number of votes shall be excluded from the election and balloting shall proceed, the candidate obtaining the smallest number of votes at each ballot being excluded from the election until one candidate obtains more votes than the remaining candidate or than the aggregate votes of the remaining candidates, as the case may be.

(6) Where at any ballot any of three or more candidates obtain an equal number of votes and one of them has to be excluded from the election under sub-rule (5) the determination as between the candidates whose votes are equal of the candidate who is to be excluded shall be by drawing of lots.

2C. Declaration by members.—Every member shall, before taking his seat in the Assembly, make a declaration in the following form, namely:—

“I.....a member of the Constituent Assembly of India, do dedicate myself in all humility to the service of India and her people to the end that this ancient land attain her rightful and honoured place in the world and make her full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind.”

3. Panel of Chairmen.—(1) As soon as may be after the commencement of a session the President or the Speaker, as the case may be, shall nominate from amongst the members of the Assembly a panel of not more than four

Chairmen, any one of whom may preside over the Assembly in the absence of the President or the Speaker when so requested by the President or as the case may be the Speaker.

(2) A Chairman nominated under sub-rule (1) shall hold his office until a new panel of Chairmen is nominated.

3A. Temporary Chairman.—If at any time the office of Speaker is vacant and a new Speaker is to be elected and there is no person authorised and able to preside over the Assembly, the Assembly shall determine from amongst its members a Chairman to preside until the new Speaker has been duly elected.

4. Power of persons presiding.—Any Chairman of the Assembly shall when presiding over the Assembly have the same powers as the President when so presiding.

5. Omitted

5A. Omitted

6. Allotment of time for non-official business and precedence of business.—The President, after considering the state of business of the Assembly may allot so many days as may be possible for non-official business, and may allot different days for the disposal of different classes of such business, and on days so allotted for any particular class of business, business of that class shall have precedence. On other days no business other than Government business shall be transacted except with the consent of the President.

7. Power to disallow Questions.—The President may within the period of notice disallow any question or any part of a question on the ground that it relates to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Government of India, and, if he does so, the question or part of the question shall not be placed on the list of questions.

8. Subject matter of Question.—Subject to the provisions of these rules, a question may be asked for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public concern within the special cognizance of the member to whom it is addressed:

Provided that no question shall be asked on any matter which is under adjudication by a Court of Law having jurisdiction in any part of India.

8A. Procedure for Questions in Assembly.—In the Assembly—

(i) notice of a question shall be given in writing to the Secretary and shall specify—

a) the official designation of the member to whom it is addressed or if the question is addressed to a non-official member, the name of such member; and

(b) the date upon which the question is proposed to be placed on the list of questions for answer;

(ii) unless the President, with the consent of the Minister concerned otherwise directs, no question shall be placed on the list of questions for answer until five clear days have expired from the time when notice of the admission of such question by the President has been given by the Secretary to the member to whom it is addressed,

(iii) not more than five questions asked by the same member shall be called for answer on any one day;

- (iv) the time available for answering questions shall be allotted on different days in rotation for the answering of questions relating to such Ministry or Ministries as the President may, from time to time, provide, and on each such day, unless the President with the consent of the Minister concerned otherwise directs, only questions relating to the Ministry or Ministries for which time on that day has been allotted, and questions addressed to non-official members, shall be placed on the list of questions for answer; and
- (v) if any question placed on the list of questions for answer on any day is not called for answer within the time available for answering questions on that day, the member to whom the question is addressed shall forthwith lay upon the table of the Assembly a written reply to the question, and no oral reply shall be required to such question and no supplementary questions shall be asked in respect thereof :

Provided that a member may, by notice given at any time before the meeting for which his question has been placed on the list, withdraw his question, or postpone it to a later day to be specified in the notice, and on such later day the question shall, subject to the provisions of clause (iv), be placed on the list after all questions which have not been so postponed:

Provided further that a postponed question shall not be placed on the list until two clear days have expired from the time when the notice of postponement has been received by the Secretary.

9. Questions regarding controversy between authorities.—In matters which are or have been the subject of controversy between the Government of India and a Provincial Government, no question shall be asked except as to matters of fact, and the answer shall be confined to a statement of fact.

10. Supplementary Questions.—Any member may put a supplementary question for the purpose of further elucidating any matter of fact regarding which an answer has been given:

Provided that the President shall disallow any supplementary question if, in his opinion, it infringes the rules as to the subject-matter of questions.

11. Motions for adjournments.—(1) A motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the President.

(2) Notice of a motion under sub-rule (1) shall be given before the commencement of the sitting on the day on which the motion is proposed to be made both to the President and to the Minister concerned.

12. Restrictions on power to make motion.—The right to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall be subject to the following restrictions, namely:—

- (i) not more than one such motion shall be made at the same sitting;
- (ii) not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion, and the motion must be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence;
- (iii) the motion must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session;
- (iv) the motion must not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration. In determining whether a discussion

is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the President to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the Assembly within a reasonable time; and

(v) the motion must not deal with any matter which is under adjudication by a Court of Law having jurisdiction in any part of India.

13. *Omitted.*

14. **Language of the Assembly.**—The business of the Assembly shall be transacted in English, provided that any member may address the Assembly in Hindustani and that the President may permit a member unacquainted with English or Hindustani to address the Assembly in any Indian Language.

15. **Decision on points of order.**—(1) The President shall decide all points of order which may arise, and his decision shall be final.

(2) Any member may at any time submit a point of order for the decision of the President, but, in doing so, shall confine himself to stating the point.

16. **Irrelevance or repetition.**—The President, after having called the attention of the Assembly to the conduct of a member who persists in irrelevance or in tedious repetition either of his own arguments or of the arguments used by other members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech.

17. **Power to order withdrawal of member.**—(1) The President shall preserve order and have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his decisions on all points of order.

(2) He may direct any member whose conduct is in his opinion grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the Assembly, and any member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall absent himself during the remainder of the day's meeting. If any member is ordered to withdraw a second time in the same session, the President may direct the member to absent himself from the meetings of the Assembly for any period not longer than the remainder of the session, and the member so directed shall absent himself accordingly.

(3) The President may, in the case of grave disorder arising in the Assembly, suspend any sitting for a time to be named by him.

17A. *Omitted.*

18. **Publication of Bills.**—The Governor-General may order the publication of any Bill (together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying it) in the Gazette, although no motion has been made for leave to introduce the Bill. In that case it shall not be necessary to move for leave to introduce the Bill, and, if the Bill is afterwards introduced, it shall not be necessary to publish it again.

19. **Notice of motion for leave to introduce Bills.**—(1) Any member, other than a Minister, desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill, shall give notice of his intention, and shall, together with the notice, submit a copy of the Bill and a full Statement of Objects and Reasons.

(2) If the Bill is a Bill which under the Act cannot be introduced without the previous sanction or recommendation of the Governor-General, the member shall annex to the notice a copy of such sanction, or recommendation, and the notice shall not be valid until this requirement is complied with.

(3) The period of notice of a motion for leave to introduce a Bill under this rule shall be one month unless the President allows the motion to be made at shorter notice.

19A. Provisions applicable to amendments requiring sanction or recommendation.—If any member desires to move an amendment which under the Act cannot be moved without the previous sanction or recommendation of the Governor-General, he shall annex to the notice required by the Standing Orders a copy of such sanction or recommendation and the notice shall not be valid until this requirement is complied with.

20. Publication.—As soon as may be after a Bill has been introduced, the Bill unless it has already been published, shall be published in the Gazette.

20A. Persons by whom motions in respect of Bills may be made.—(1) No motion that a Bill be taken into consideration or be passed shall be made by any member other than the member in charge of the Bill and no motion that a Bill be referred to a Select Committee or be circulated or re-circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon shall be made by any member other than the member in charge except by way of amendment to a motion made by the member in charge.

(2) For the purposes of this rule member in charge of the Bill means, in the case of a Government Bill any member acting on behalf of the Government and, in any other case the member who has introduced the Bill.

20B. Allotment of days for stages of Finance Bills.—(1) In this rule "Finance Bill" means the Bill introduced or introduced by a member in charge to the financial properties of the Government of India for the next following financial year and includes a Bill to give effect to supplementary financial proposals for any period.

(2) At any time after the introduction in the Assembly of a Finance Bill, the President may allot a day or days jointly or severally for the completion of all or any of the stages involved in the passage of the Bill by the Assembly, and when such allotment has been made the President shall at 5 o'clock on the allotted day or as the case may be the last of the allotted days forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with the stage or stages for which the day or days have been allotted.

Provided that if a Minister has a right of reply to the debate on the motion which is under discussion at 4 p.m. on that day and has not commenced his reply at that hour the President shall inquire how much time not exceeding one hour he requires for his reply and shall call upon any member for the time being addressing the Assembly to resume his seat at such time as will leave available before 5 o'clock the amount of time which the Minister has stated that he requires for his reply.

(3) Where the question or one of the questions required by sub-rule (2) to be put at 5 o'clock on the allotted day or the last of the allotted days is that the Bill be passed, sub-rule (2) shall have effect notwithstanding that amendments of the Bill have been made.

(4) Subject to the proviso to sub-rule (2) the President may if he thinks fit, prescribe a time limit for speeches at all or any of the stages for which a day or days have been allotted under that sub-rule.

(5) Notwithstanding that a day has been allotted for other business under this rule or under rule 46 or 47 a motion or motions for leave to introduce a Bill or Bills may be made and a Bill or Bills may be introduced on such day before the Assembly enters on the business for which the day has been allotted.

21. Omitted

22. Omitted

23. Restrictions on subjects for discussion.—(1) Every resolution shall be in the form of a declaration of opinion by the Assembly.

(2) No resolution shall be moved on any matter which is under adjudication by a Court of Law having jurisdiction in any part of India.

24. Copy to Government.—A copy of every resolution which has been passed by the Assembly shall be forwarded to the Governor General.

24A. Discussion of matters of general public interest otherwise than on a resolution.—Save in so far as is otherwise provided by the Act or by these rules, no discussion of a matter of general public interest shall take place otherwise than on a resolution moved in accordance with the rules governing the moving of resolutions except on a motion made with the consent of the President, who, if he admits the motion, will allot a day for its discussion in consultation with the Leader of the House.

24B. Motion of non-confidence in Ministers.—(1) A motion expressing want of confidence in the Council of Ministers may be made subject to the following restrictions, namely:—

(a) leave to make the motion must be asked for the questions and before the 1st of business for the day is entered upon.

(b) the member asking for leave must declare the commencement of the sitting or the day leave with the Secretary a written notice of the motion which he proposes to move.

(2) If the President is of opinion that the motion is in order, he shall read the motion to the Assembly and shall request the members who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places, and a not less than twenty-five members rise accordingly the President shall announce that leave is granted and that the motion will be taken on such day not being more than ten days from the date on which the leave is asked as he may appoint. If less than twenty-five members rise the President shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the Assembly.

24C. Resignation of Ministers.—(1) A member who has resigned the office of Minister may, with the consent of the President, make a personal statement in explanation of his resignation.

(2) Such statement shall be made after questions and before the 1st of business for the day is entered upon.

(a) On such statement no debate shall be allowed.

Provided that a Minister shall be entitled after the member has made his statement, to make a statement pertinent thereto.

25—42. Omitted

43. The Budget.—The Annual Financial Statement or the Statement of the estimated Receipts and Expenditure of the Dominion in respect of each financial year (hereinafter referred to as 'the Budget') shall be presented to the Assembly on such date as the Governor General may direct.

44. Demands for grants.—(1) A separate demand shall ordinarily be made in respect of the grant proposed for each Ministry, provided that the Finance Minister may include in one demand grants proposed for two or more Ministries, or make a demand in respect of expenditure which cannot readily be classified under particular Ministries.

(2) Each demand shall contain, first, a statement of the total grant proposed, and then a statement of the detailed estimate under each grant divided into items.

(3) Subject to these rules, the Budget shall be presented in such a form as the Finance Minister may consider best fitted for its consideration by the Assembly.

45. Stages of the Budget debate.—The Budget shall be dealt with by the Assembly in two stages, namely:—

- (i) a general discussion; and
- (ii) the voting of demands for grants

46. General discussion.—(1) On a day to be appointed by the President subsequent to the day on which the Budget is presented and for such time as the President may allot for this purpose the Assembly shall be at liberty to discuss the Budget as a whole or any question of principle involved therein, but no motion shall be moved at this stage, nor shall the Budget be submitted to the vote of the Assembly.

(2) The Finance Minister shall have a general right of reply at the end of the discussion

(3) The President may, if he thinks fit, prescribe a time-limit for speeches

47. Voting of grants.—(1) The President in consultation with the Leader of the House shall allot so many days as may be compatible with the public interest for the discussion and voting of demands for grants

(2) On the last day of the allotted days at five o'clock, the President shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connection with the demands for grants.

48. Motions at this stage.—(1) No motion for appropriation can be made except on the recommendation of the Governor-General communicated to the Assembly.

(2) Motions may be moved at this stage to reduce any grant, but not increase or alter the destination of a grant.

(3) No amendments to motions to reduce any grant shall be permissible.

(4) When several motions relating to the same demand are offered, they shall be discussed in the order in which the heads to which they relate, appear in the Budget.

48A. Presentation of budget in parts.—Nothing hereinbefore contained shall be deemed to prevent the presentation of the Budget to the Assembly in two or more parts and when such presentation takes place, each part shall be dealt with in accordance with the foregoing rules as if it were the Budget

49. Excess grants.—When money has been spent on any service for which the vote of the Assembly is necessary during any financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service and for that year, a demand for the excess shall be presented to the Assembly by the Finance Minister, and shall be dealt with in the same way by the Assembly as if it were a demand for a grant

50. Supplementary or additional grants.—(1) An estimate shall be presented to the Assembly for a supplementary or additional grant when—

- (i) the amount voted in the Budget of a grant is found to be insufficient for the purposes of the current year, or
- (ii) a need arises during the current year for expenditure for which the vote of the Assembly is necessary upon some new service not contemplated in the Budget for that year

Provided that when funds to meet proposed expenditure on a new service can be made available by re-appropriation a demand for the grant of a token sum may be submitted to the vote of the Assembly and if the Assembly assents to the demand, funds may be so made available.

(2) An estimate may be presented to the Assembly for an additional or supplementary grant in respect of any demand to which the Assembly has previously refused its assent, or the amount of which the Assembly has reduced.

(3) Supplementary or additional estimates shall be dealt with in the same way by the Assembly as if they were demands for grants.

51. Constitution of Committee on Public Accounts.—(1) As soon as may be after the commencement of the first session of the Assembly, a Committee on Public Accounts shall, subject to the provisions of this rule, be constituted for the purpose of dealing with the appropriation accounts of the Government of India and the report of the Auditor-General thereon and such other matters as the Ministry of Finance may refer to the Committee.

(2) The Committee on Public Accounts shall consist of not more than twelve members including the Chairman. They shall be elected by the Assembly from among its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote. The term of office of members of the Committee shall be one year but any member shall be eligible for re-election. In order to constitute a meeting of the Committee, the quorum shall be four.

(3) Casual vacancies in the Committee shall be filled as soon as possible after they occur by election in the manner aforesaid, and any person elected to fill such vacancy shall hold office for the period for which the person in whose place he is elected would, under the provisions of this rule, have held office.

(4) The Finance Minister shall be Chairman of the Committee, and, in the case of an equality of votes on any matter, shall have a second or casting vote.

52. Control of Committee on Public Accounts.—(1) In scrutinising the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of India and the report of the Auditor-General thereon, it shall be the duty of the Public Accounts Committee to satisfy itself—

(a) that the moneys shown in the accounts as having been disbursed were legally available for and applicable to the service or purpose to which they have been applied or charged;

(b) that the expenditure conforms to the authority which governs it; and and

(c) that every reappropriation has been made in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed by the Ministry of Finance.

(2) It shall also be a duty of the Public Accounts Committee—

(a) to examine such trading, manufacturing and profit and loss accounts and balance sheets as the Governor-General may have required to be prepared, and the Auditor-General's report thereon; and

(b) to consider the report of the Auditor-General in cases where the Governor-General may have required him to conduct an audit of any receipts or to examine the accounts of stores and stock.

52A. Procedure to be followed in making rules.—The procedure to be followed by the Assembly in making rules under sub-section (1) of section 38 of the Act to regulate its procedure and the conduct of its business shall be such as may be adopted by motion made and carried in the Assembly.

53. Communications from the Governor-General to the Assembly.—Communications from the Governor-General to the Assembly shall be made to the President by written message or, if the Governor-General is absent from the headquarters of the Government by telegraphic message the authenticity of which shall be certified to the President under signature of a Minister.

No. 75-II/47-A.—The Legislative Assembly Standing Orders in force immediately before the establishment of the Dominion of India as modified and adapted by the President of the Constituent Assembly of India in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 38 of the Government of India Act, 1935 for the purposes of the said Assembly when discharging the functions of the Dominion Legislature under the said Act, are hereby published for general information —

1. Short title.—These standing orders may be called “the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Standing Orders”.

2. Definitions. In these standing orders unless the context otherwise requires,

“the Act” means the Government of India Act, 1935 as in force for the time being;

“Assembly” means the Constituent Assembly of India when discharging the functions of the Dominion Legislature under the Act;

“Finance Minister” includes the Minister or any member of the Assembly appointed by the Governor-General to perform the functions assigned to the Finance Minister under the rules or these standing orders;

“Gazette” means the Gazette of India;

“member” means a member of the Assembly;

“Minister” means a member of the Council of Ministers and includes any member to whom such Minister may delegate any function assigned to him under the rules or these standing orders;

“notification” means a notification in the Gazette;

“President” means the President of the Constituent Assembly of India and includes —

(a) the Speaker elected under rule 2A of the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Rules, and

(b) any other person when presiding over the Assembly;

“rules” means the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) Rules;

“Secretary” means the Secretary to the Assembly and includes any person for the time being performing the duties of the Secretary.

Words and expressions used in the Act and also in these standing orders shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings assigned to them in the Act.

I.—SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY, ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS AND GIVING OF NOTICES.

3. Summoning of Assembly.—(1) The Secretary shall issue a summons to each member specifying the date and place for a session of the Assembly.

(2) The Assembly shall sit on such days as the President, having regard to the state of business of the Assembly, may from time to time direct.

4. Lapse of pending notices on termination of a session.—On the termination of a session—

(1) all pending notices, other than notices of intention to move for leave to introduce a Bill, shall lapse and fresh notice must be given for the next session;

Provided that prior notice will be necessary of intention to move for leave to introduce any Bill in respect of which sanction has been granted under the Act if the sanction has ceased to be operative.

(2) Bills which have been introduced shall be carried over to the pending list of business of the next session.

Provided that if the number of changes of a Bill in the course of its consideration during two complete sessions the Bill shall lapse, unless the Assembly, on a motion by that member in the next session makes a special order for the continuance of the Bill.

5. *Omitted.*

6. **Time of meeting.**—Meetings of the Assembly shall (subject to the direction of the President) ordinarily commence at 11 A.M.

7. **Arrangement of Government business.**—On days allotted for the transaction of Government business the Secretary shall arrange that business in such order as the President may determine.

7A. **Precedence of notices of Bills.**—(1) The relative precedence of notices of Bills given by non-official members shall be determined by ballot to be held in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule I on such day, not being less than fifteen days before the day with reference to which the ballot is held, as the President may direct.

Provided that the President may from time to time make such variations in the said procedure as he may consider necessary or convenient.

(2) On a day allotted for the disposal of non-official Bills, Bills which have already been introduced by non-official members shall have priority over all other business provided that any notice required by chapters or standing orders has been given, and such Bills shall have relative precedence in the following order, namely—

- (a) Bills returned by the Governor-General with a message under section 32 of the Act,
- (b) Bills introduced in the Assembly in respect of which a motion has been carried that the Bill be taken into consideration,
- (c) Bills introduced in the Assembly in respect of which the Report of a Select Committee has been presented,
- (d) Bills which have been circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions; and
- (e) other Bills.

(3) The relative precedence of Bills falling under the same clause of sub-order (2) shall be determined by ballot to be held at such time and in such manner as the President may direct.

Provided that Bills falling under clause (c) which remain over from the preceding session shall, subject to the provisions of sub-order (2) of standing order 4 have priority over other such Bills in the order of the date of their introduction.

7B. **Precedence of resolutions.**—The relative precedence of notices of resolutions given by non-official members shall be determined by ballot, to be held, in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule I on such day, not being less than fifteen days before the day with reference to which the ballot is held, as the President may direct.

Provided that the President may, from time to time, make such variations in the said procedure as he may consider necessary or convenient.

8. List of business.—(1) A list of business for the day shall be prepared by the Secretary, and a copy thereof shall be made available for the use of every member

(2) Save as otherwise provided in the rules or these standing orders, no business not included in the list of business for the day shall be transacted at any meeting without the leave of the President

(3) Save as otherwise provided by the rules or standing orders, no business requiring notice shall be set down for a day earlier than the day after that on which the period of the notice necessary for that class of business expires

(4) Unless the President otherwise directs, not more than five resolutions (in addition to any resolution which has been commenced on, and is outstanding from, a previous day) shall be set down in the list of business for any day allotted for the disposal of non-official resolutions.

9. Business outstanding at end of day.—Non-official business set down for the day allotted for that class of business and not disposed of on that day shall not be set down for any subsequent day, unless it has gained priority at the ballot held with reference to that day:

Provided that, notwithstanding anything contained in standing orders 7A and 7B, any such business which has commenced and remains part-discussed at the end of the day shall be set down for the next day allotted to business of that class, and shall have precedence over all other business set down for that day

10. Time for questions.—The first hour of every meeting shall be available for the asking and answering of questions.

11. Giving of notice by members.—(1) Every notice required by the rules or standing orders shall be given in writing addressed to the Secretary, and signed by the member giving notice, and shall be left at the Notice Office which shall be open for this purpose between the hours of 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. on every day except Sunday or a public holiday.

(2) Notices left when the office is closed shall be treated as given on the next open day.

12. Giving of notice to members.—(1) The Secretary shall make every effort to circulate to each member a copy of every notice or other paper which is, by these standing orders, required to be made available for the use of members.

(2) A notice or other paper shall be deemed to have been made available for the use of every member if a copy thereof is deposited in such manner and in such place as the President may, from time to time, direct.

II—QUESTIONS.

13. Notice of questions.—Unless the President with the consent of the Minister concerned otherwise directs, not less than ten clear days' notice of a question shall be given.

14. Matters to which questions must relate.—(1) A question addressed to a Minister must relate to the public affairs with which he is officially connected, or to a matter of administration for which he is responsible

(2) A question addressed to a non-official member must relate to some Bill, resolution or other matter connected with the business of the Assembly for which that member is responsible.

15. Form and contents of questions.—In order that a question may be admissible, it must satisfy the following conditions, namely:—

- (1) It shall not bring in any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible;
- (2) if it contains a statement by the member himself, he shall make himself responsible for the accuracy of the statement;
- (3) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements;
- (4) it shall not ask for an expression of opinion or the solution of a hypothetical proposition;
- (5) it may not be asked as to the character or conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity; and
- (6) it shall not be of excessive length.

16. President to decide admissibility of questions.—The President shall decide whether a question is or is not admissible under these standing orders, and may disallow any question when in his opinion it is an abuse of the right of questioning or calculated to obstruct or prejudicially affect the procedure of the Assembly, or is in contravention of these standing orders, and shall disallow any question if it infringes the rules as to the subject matter of questions.

17. List of questions.—Questions, which have not been disallowed, shall be entered in the list of questions for the day, and shall be called, if the time made available for questions permits, in the order in which they stand in the list before any other business is entered upon at the meeting.

18. Questions how put.—Questions shall be put and answers given in such manner as the President may, in his discretion, determine.

19. Answers to withdrawn questions.—If on a question being called it is not put or the member in whose name it stands is absent, the President, at the request of any member, may direct that the answer to it be given.

20. Prohibition of discussion on questions or answers.—No discussion shall be permitted in respect of any question or of any answer given to a question.

III.—MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT FOR PURPOSES OF DEBATE.

21. Time of asking leave for motion for adjournment.—Leave to make a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance must be asked for after questions and before the list of business for the day is entered upon.

22. Method of asking leave.—The member asking for leave must, before the commencement of the sitting of the day, leave with the Secretary a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed.

23. Procedure to be followed.—If the President is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the Assembly, and ask whether the member has the leave of the Assembly to move the adjournment. If objection is taken, the President shall request those members who are in favour of leave being granted to rise in their places, and if not less than twenty-five members rise accordingly, the President shall intimate that leave is granted and that the motion will be taken at 4 P.M., or, if the President after consultation with the Leader of the House so directs, at any earlier hour at which the business of the day may terminate. If less than twenty-five members rise, the President shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the Assembly.

24. Limitation of time of discussion.—(1) On a motion to adjourn for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, the only question that may be put shall be "That the Assembly do now adjourn";

provided that, if the debate is not concluded by 6 P.M., it shall automatically terminate and no question shall be put.

(2) No speech during the debate shall exceed fifteen minutes in duration.

IV.—GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE.

25. *Omitted*

26. **Seating of members.**—The members shall sit in such order as the President may appoint.

27. **Members to rise when speaking.**—A member desiring to make any observations on any matter before the Assembly shall speak from his place, shall rise when he speaks, and shall address the President. At any time if the President rises, any member speaking shall resume his seat.

28. **Explanations.**—When, for the purposes of explanation during discussion or for any other sufficient reason, any member has occasion to ask a question of another member on any matter then under the consideration of the Assembly, he shall ask the question through the President.

29. **Limitations on debate.**—(1) The matter of every speech shall be strictly relevant to the matter before the Assembly.

(2) A member while speaking shall not—

- (i) refer to any matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending;
- (ii) make a personal charge against a member;
- (iii) make use of offensive expressions regarding the conduct of the Dominion or any Provincial Legislature;
- (iv) reflect upon the conduct of His Majesty the King or the Governor-General or any Governor (as distinct from the Governments of which they are respectively the heads) or any Court of Law in the exercise of its judicial functions;
- (v) utter treasonable, seditious, or defamatory words; or
- (vi) use his right of speech for the purpose of wilfully and persistently obstructing the business of the Assembly.

30. **Motions.**—(1) A matter requiring the decision of the Assembly shall be brought forward by means of a question put by the President on a motion proposed by a member.

(2) Votes may be taken by voices or division, and shall be taken by division if any member so desires. The President shall determine the method of taking votes by division.

(3) The result of a division shall be announced by the President and shall not be challenged.

31. **Repetition of motions.**—A motion must not raise a question substantially identical with one on which the Assembly has given a decision in the same session:

Provided that nothing in this Standing Order shall, unless the President in any case otherwise directs, be deemed to prevent the making of any of the following motions, namely:—

- (a) a motion for the taking into consideration or the reference to a Select Committee of a Bill, where an amendment has been carried to a previous motion of the same kind to the effect that the Bill be circulated or re-circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions thereon;

- (b) any motion for the amendment of a Bill which has been referred to a Select Committee, or re-circulated for the purpose of elicitng opinions thereon,
- (c) any motion for the amendment of a Bill made after the return of the Bill by the Governor-General for re-consideration by the Assembly,
- (d) any motion for the amendment of a Bill which is consequential on, or designed merely to alter the drafting of, another amendment which has been carried,
- (e) any motion which has to be or may be made within a period determined by or under the rules or standing orders.

32. Order of speeches and right of reply.—(1) After the member who moves has spoken other members may speak to the motion in such order as the President may call upon them. If any member who is so called upon does not speak, he shall not be entitled, except by the permission of the President, to speak to the motion at any later stage of the debate.

(2) Except in the exercise of a right of reply or as otherwise provided by the rules or these standing orders, no members shall speak more than once to any motion except, with the permission of the President, for the purpose of making a personal explanation, but in that case no debatable matter may be brought forward.

(3) A member who has moved a motion may speak again by way of reply, and if the motion is moved by a non-official member, the Minister concerned may, with the permission of the President, speak (whether he has previously spoken in the debate or not) after the mover has replied.

Provided that nothing in this sub order shall be deemed to give any right of reply to the mover of a motion to reduce any demand for grant or to the mover of an amendment to a Bill or a resolution, save with the permission of the President.

(4) The President may in all cases address the Assembly before putting a question to the vote.

33. Rules as to amendments.—(1) An amendment must be relevant to, and within the scope of, the motion to which it is proposed.

(2) An amendment may not be moved which has merely the effect of a negative vote.

(3) An amendment on a question must not be inconsistent with a previous decision on the same question given at the same stage of any Bill or other matter.

(4) (a) The President may refuse to put an amendment which is in his opinion frivolous.

(b) In respect of any motion, or in respect of any Bill, the President shall have power to select the new clauses or amendments to be proposed, and may, if he thinks fit, call upon any member who has given notice of an amendment to give such explanation of the object of the amendment as may enable him to form a judgment upon it.

34. Closure.—(1) At any time after a motion has been made, any member may move "That the question be now put", and, unless it appears to the President that the motion is an abuse of the rules or these standing orders, or an infringement of the right of reasonable debate the President shall then put the motion "That the question be now put."

(2) At any time after a motion has been made in respect of a Bill promoted by a Minister, the Minister may request the President to put the question, and, unless it appears to the President that the request is an abuse of the rules or these standing orders, or an infringement of the right of a reasonable debate, the President shall then put the question.

(3) Where a motion is made under sub-order (1), or a request is made under sub-order (2), the motion, and, if it is carried, the question, or, as the case may be, the question, shall be put without amendment or debate:

Provided that the President may allow any member any right of reply which he may have under these standing orders.

35. Strangers.—The admission to the Assembly Chamber of—

- (1) visitors to the Visitors' gallery,
- (2) representatives of the Press to the Press gallery, and
- (3) officials to the Official gallery,

during the sittings of the Assembly shall be regulated in accordance with orders made by the President.

36. Power to order withdrawal of strangers.—The President, whenever he thinks fit, may order the Visitors' or Press gallery to be cleared.

V.—INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

37. Motion for leave to introduce.—If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the President, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from the member who opposes the motion, may without further debate put the question.

VI.—MOTIONS AFTER INTRODUCTION.

38. Motions after introduction.—When a Bill is introduced, or on some subsequent occasion, the member in charge may make one of the following motions in regard to his Bill, namely:—

- (a) that it be taken into consideration by the Assembly either at once or at some future day to be then specified; or
- (b) that it be referred to a Select Committee; or
- (c) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

Provided that no such motion shall be made until after copies of the Bill have been made available for the use of members, and that any member may object to any such motion being made unless copies of the Bill have been so made available for three days, before the day on which the motion is made, and such objection shall prevail, unless the President in his discretion allows the motion to be made.

39. Discussion of principle of Bills.—(1) On the day on which any such motion is made, or on any subsequent day to which the discussion thereof is postponed, the principle of the Bill and its general provisions may be discussed, but the details of the Bill must not be discussed further than is necessary to explain its principles.

(2) At this stage no amendments to the Bill may be moved, but—

- (a) if the member in charge moves that his Bill be taken into consideration, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, or be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion, or
- (b) if the member in charge moves that his Bill be referred to a Select Committee, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion.

(8) Where a motion that a Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon is carried, and the Bill is circulated in accordance with that direction and opinions are received thereon, the member in charge, if he wishes to proceed with his Bill thereafter, must move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, unless the President in his discretion allows a motion to be made that the Bill be taken into consideration.

VII—SELECT COMMITTEES.

40. Composition of Select Committees.—(1) The Minister concerned with the Bill, the member who introduced the Bill and the Minister of Law shall be members of every Select Committee, and it shall not be necessary to include their names in any motion for appointment of such a Committee.

(2) The other members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Assembly when a motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee is made, or a motion is made by way of amendment under clause (a) of sub-order (2) of Standing Order 89.

(3) (a) The Minister of Law shall be Chairman of the Committee.

(b) If the Chairman of the Committee be absent from any meeting, the Committee shall choose another member to act as Chairman for that meeting.

(c) In the case of an equality of votes, the question shall be decided in the negative.

(4) A Select Committee may hear expert evidence and representative of special interests affected by the measure before them.

40A. Quorum of Select Committee—(1) At the time of the appointment by the Assembly of the members of a Select Committee the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be fixed by the Assembly.

(2) If at the time fixed for an meeting of the Select Committee, or if at any time during any such meeting the quorum of members fixed by the Assembly is not present the Chairman of the Committee shall either suspend the meeting until a quorum is present or adjourn the Committee to some future day.

(3) Where the Select Committee has been adjourned in pursuance of sub-order (2) on two successive dates fixed for meetings of the Committee, the Chairman shall report the fact to the Assembly.

41. Reports by Select Committee.—(1) After publication in the Gazette of Bill, as required by the rules the Select Committee to which the Bill has been referred shall make a report thereon.

(2) Such report shall be made not sooner than three months from the date of the first publication of the Bill in the Gazette, unless the Assembly orders the report to be made sooner:

Provided that the time-limit referred to in this sub-order shall not apply in the case of Bills imposing taxation.

(3) Reports may be either preliminary or final.

(4) The Select Committee shall in their report state whether the publication of the Bill directed by the rules has taken place, and the date on which the publication has taken place.

(5) Where a Bill has been altered the Select Committee may, if they think fit, include in their Report a recommendation to the Member in charge of the Bill that his next motion should be a motion for circulation or where the Bill has already been circulated, for re-circulation.

(6) If any member of a Select Committee desires to record a minute of dissent on any point, he must sign the report stating that he does so subject to his minute of dissent, and must at the same time hand in his minute.

42. Presentation of report.—(1) The report of the Select Committee on a Bill shall be presented to the Assembly by the member in charge of the Bill.

(2) In presenting a report the member in charge shall, if he makes any remarks, confine himself to a brief statement of fact, but there shall be no debate at this stage.

43. Printing and publication of reports.—(1) The Secretary shall cause every report of a Select Committee to be printed, and a copy of the report shall be made available for the use of every member of the Assembly. The report, with the amended Bill, shall be published in the Gazette.

(2) If any member is unacquainted with English the Secretary shall also, if requested, cause the report to be translated for his use into such Indian language as the President may direct.

44. Procedure after presentation of report.—(1) After the presentation of the final report of a Select Committee on a Bill, the member in charge may move—

(a) that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration: Provided that any member of the Assembly may object to its being so taken into consideration if a copy of the report has not been made available for the use of members for seven days, and such objection shall prevail, unless the President, in his discretion, allows the report to be taken into consideration; or

(b) that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be re-committed either—

(i) without limitation, or

(ii) with respect to particular clauses or amendments only, or

(iii) with instructions to the Select Committee to make some particular or an additional provision in the Bill; or

(c) that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be circulated or re-circulated as the case may be, for the purpose of obtaining opinion or further opinion thereon.

(2) If the member in charge moves that the Bill be taken into consideration, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be re-committed or be circulated or re-circulated for the purpose of obtaining opinion or further opinion thereon.

VIII—CONSIDERATION, AMENDMENT AND PASSING OF BILLS.

45. Proposal of amendments.—When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, any member may propose an amendment of the Bill.

46. Notice of amendments.—(1) If notice of a proposed amendment has not been given two clear days before the day on which the Bill is to be considered, any member may object to the moving of the amendment, and such objection shall prevail unless the President, in his discretion, allows the amendment to be moved.

(2) The Secretary shall, if time permits, cause every notice of a proposed amendment to be printed and a copy thereof to be made available for the use of every member.

(3) If any member present is unacquainted with English, the Secretary shall also, if requested, cause every such notice to be translated for his use into such Indian language as the President may direct.

47. Order of amendments.—Amendments shall ordinarily be considered in the order of the clauses of the Bill to which they respectively relate; and in respect of any such clause a motion shall be deemed to have been made "That this clause stand part of the Bill."

48. Submission of Bills clause by clause.—Notwithstanding anything in these standing orders, it shall be in the discretion of the President, when a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, to submit the Bill, or any part of the Bill, to the Assembly clause by clause. When this procedure is adopted, the President shall call each clause separately, and, when the amendments relating to it have been dealt with, shall put the question "That this clause (or, as the case may be, that this clause as amended) stand part of the Bill".

49. Passing of Bills.—(1) When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried and no amendment of the Bill is made, the member in charge may at once move that the Bill be passed.

(2) If any amendment of the Bill is made, any member may object to any motion being made, on the same day, that the Bill be passed, and such objection shall prevail, unless the President, in his discretion, allows the motion to be made.

(3) Where the objection prevails, a motion that the Bill be passed may be brought forward on any future day.

(4) To such a motion no amendment may be moved which is not either formal or consequential upon an amendment made after the Bill was taken into consideration.

50. Withdrawal of Bills.—The member who has introduced a Bill may at any stage of the Bill move for leave to withdraw the Bill; and if such leave is granted, no further motion may be made with reference to the Bill.

51. Authentication of Bills.—When a Bill is passed by the Assembly, a copy thereof shall be signed by the President.

52. Omitted.

53. Reconsideration by the Assembly of Bills passed.—When a Bill which has been passed by the Assembly is returned by the Governor-General for reconsideration by the Assembly, the point or points referred for re-consideration shall be put before the Assembly by the President, and shall be discussed and voted upon in the same manner as amendments to a Bill, or in such other way as the President may consider most convenient for their consideration by the Assembly.

54—57. Omitted.

IX.—RESOLUTIONS.

58.—Notice of resolutions.—A member who wishes to move a resolution shall give fifteen clear days' notice of his intention and shall, together with the notice, submit a copy of the resolution which he wishes to move.

Provided that the President, with the consent of the Minister concerned, may allow it to be entered on the list of business with shorter notice than fifteen days.

59. Form and contents of resolutions.—Subject to the restriction contained in the rules and to the provisions of these standing orders, any member may move a resolution relating to a matter of general public interest.

Provided that no resolution shall be admissible which does not comply with the following conditions, namely:—

- (a) it shall be clearly and precisely expressed and shall raise substantially one definite issue; and

- (b) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions or defamatory statements, nor shall it refer to the conduct or character of persons except in their official or public capacity.

60. Admissibility of resolutions.—The President shall decide on the admissibility of a resolution, and may disallow any resolution when in his opinion it does not comply with these standing orders, and shall disallow any resolution if it intringes the rules as to the subject-matter of resolutions.

61. Motion and withdrawal of resolutions.—(1) A member in whose name a resolution stands on the list of business shall, when called on, either—

- (a) withdraw the resolution in which case he shall confine himself to a mere statement to that effect; or

- (b) move the resolution, in which case he shall commence his speech by a formal motion in the terms appearing on the list of business:

Provided that the member may, with the permission of the President, authorise any other member, in whose name the same resolution stands lower in the list of business, to move it on his behalf, and the member so authorised may move accordingly.

(2) If the member when called on is absent, any other member authorised by him in writing in this behalf may, with the permission of the President, move the resolution standing in his name. But if no member has been so authorised or such permission is not granted, the resolution shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

62. Duration of speeches.—No speech on a resolution, except with the permission of the President, shall exceed fifteen minutes in duration:

Provided that the mover of a resolution, when moving the same and the Minister concerned when speaking for the first time, may speak for thirty minutes or for such longer time as the President may permit.

63. Limits of discussion.—The discussion of a resolution shall be strictly limited to the subject of the resolution.

64. Amendments.—After a resolution has been moved, any member may, subject to the rules and standing orders relating to resolutions, move an amendment to the resolution.

65. Notice of Amendments.—(1) if notice of such amendment has not been given two clear days before the day on which the resolution is moved, any member may object to the moving of the amendment, and such objection shall prevail, unless the President, in his discretion, allows the amendment to be moved.

(2) The Secretary shall, if time permits, cause every amendment to be printed and a copy thereof to be made available for the use of every member.

66. Withdrawal of resolutions.—(1) A member who has moved a resolution or an amendment to a resolution shall not withdraw the same, except by leave of the Assembly.

(2) No discussion shall be permitted on a motion for leave to withdraw, except with the permission of the President.

67. Order of Amendments.—(1) When an amendment to any resolution is moved, or when two or more such amendments are moved, the President shall, before taking the sense of the Assembly thereon, state or read to the Assembly the terms of the original motion and of the amendment or amendments proposed.

(2) It shall be in the discretion of the President to put first to the vote either the original motion or any of the amendments which may have been brought forward.

68. Division of resolution.—When any resolution involving several points has been discussed, it shall be in the discretion of the President to divide the resolution, and put each or any point separately to the vote as he may think fit.

69. Resolutions not discussed.—If a resolution which has been admitted is not discussed during the session, it shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

70. Effect of motion and withdrawal.—(1) When a resolution has been moved, no resolution or amendment raising substantially the same question shall be moved within one year from the date of the moving of the earlier resolution.

(2) When a resolution has been withdrawn with the leave of the Assembly, no resolution raising substantially the same question shall be moved during the same session.

A—THE BUDGET.

71. Budget not to be discussed on presentation.—There shall be no discussion of the Budget on the day on which it is presented to the Assembly.

72. Notice of motions.—If notice of a motion to omit or reduce any grant has not been given two clear days before the day on which the demand is under consideration any member may object to the moving of the motion, and such objection shall prevail, unless the President in his discretion allows the motion to be made.

73. Omitted.

XI—COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND THE ASSEMBLY AND REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

74. Communications to the Governor-General.—Communications from the Assembly to the Governor-General shall be made—

- (1) by formal address; after motion made and carried in the Assembly; and
- (2) through the President.

74A. Communications from the Governor-General.—Communications from the Governor-General to the Assembly are made by written message through the President.

75. Report of Proceedings.—The Secretary shall cause to be prepared a full report of the proceedings of the Assembly at each of its meetings, and shall as soon as practicable, publish it in such form and manner as the President may, from time to time direct.

76. Omitted.

XII—PETITIONS RELATING TO BILLS.

77. Petitions relating to pending Bills.—Petitions relating to a Bill which has been published under rule 18, or which has been introduced or in respect of which notice of a motion has been received under the standing orders, may be presented or submitted in accordance with the standing orders.

78. Presentation of petitions.—Any such petition may be presented by a member, or be forwarded to the Secretary, in which latter case the fact shall be reported by him to the Assembly, and no debate shall be permitted on the making of such report.

79. Form of presentation.—A member presenting a petition shall confine himself to a statement in the following form:—

“I present a petition signed by _____
_____ petitioners regarding _____
_____ Bill”, and no debate shall be permitted on this statement.

80. Nomination of Committee on petitions.—(1) A committee on petitions shall be constituted, as soon as may be, after the commencement of each session, and shall consist of five members nominated by the President of whom two shall be Chairmen of the Assembly. The person whose name appears first in the panel of such Chairmen shall be Chairman of the Committee, and, in the absence of such person, the other Chairman of the Assembly shall preside.

(2) The President may, if he thinks fit, fill up any vacancies occurring on the Committee during the session.

81. Reference to Committee.—Every petition after presentation by a member or report by the Secretary, as the case may be, shall be referred to the Committee.

82. Examination and report by Committee.—The Committee shall examine every petition referred to it, and shall report to the Assembly stating the subject-matter of the petition, the number of persons by whom it is signed, and whether it is in conformity with the Standing Orders. If the petition complies with the Standing Orders, the Committee may, in its discretion, direct that it be circulated as a paper to be read in the Assembly. The Committee shall in its report state whether circulation has or has not been directed, and, where circulation has not been directed, the President may in his discretion direct that the petition be circulated. Such circulation shall be of the petition *in extenso* or of a summary thereof as the Committee or the President, as the case may be, may direct.

83. Countersignature of petitions.—Every petition shall—

- (i) if presented by a member, be countersigned by him; and
- (ii) be couched in respectful and temperate language.

84. Authentication of signatories to petitions.—The full name and address of every signatory to a petition shall be set out therein and shall be authenticated by the signatory, if literate by his signature and if illiterate by his thumb impression.

85. Petitions to whom to be addressed and how to be concluded.—Every petition shall be addressed to the Constituent Assembly of India and shall conclude with a prayer reciting the definite object of the petitioners in regard to the Bill to which it relates.

86. General form of petitions.—The general form of petitions set out in Schedule II, with such variations as the circumstances of each case require, may be used and, if used, shall be sufficient.

SCHEDULE I.

[See Standing Orders 7A (1) and 7B.]

Ballot procedure for determining relative precedence of non-official Bills and Resolutions—

1. Not less than seventeen days before each day allotted for the disposal of non-official business, the Secretary will cause to be placed in the Assembly Office a numbered list. This list will be kept open for two days, and during those days and at hours when the office is open, any member who wishes to give or has given notice of a resolution, or has given notice of a Bill, as the case may be, may have his name entered, in the case of a ballot for resolutions, against one number only, or, in the case of a ballot for Bills, against one number for each Bill of which he has given notice up to the number of three.

2. The ballot will be held in the Committee room before the Secretary, and any member who wishes to attend may do so.

3. Papers with numbers corresponding to those against which entries have been made on the numbered list will be placed in a box.

4. A clerk will take out at hazard from the Box one of the papers and the Secretary will call out from the list the corresponding name, which will then be entered on a priority list. This procedure will be carried out till all the numbers or, in the case of a ballot for resolutions, five numbers have been drawn.

5. Priority on the list will entitle the member to have set down, in the order of his priority for the day with reference to which the ballot is held any Bill or any resolution, as the case may be, of which he has given the notice required by the rules or standing orders:

Provided that he shall then and there specify such Bill or Bills or such resolution.

SCHEDULE II.

FORM OF PETITION.

(See Standing Order 86.)

TO THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA

WHEREAS a Bill entitled a Bill

(Here insert title of Bill)

is now under the consideration of the Dominion Legislature the humble petition of

(Here insert name and designation or description of petitioner or petitioners in concise form e.g., "Ram Lal and others" or "the inhabitants of....." or "the municipality of....." etc.)

sheweth

(Here insert concise statement of case)

and accordingly your petitioner (or petitioners) pray that

(Here insert "that the Bill be or be not proceeded with," or "that special provision be made in the Bill to meet the case of your petitioner" or any other appropriate prayer regarding the Bill)

and your petitioner (s) as in duty bound will ever pray.

Name of petitioner	Address	Signature or thumb impression.

Countersignature of Member presenting.

By order of the President,

M. N. KAUL,

Secretary.

